

## THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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MORNING.

THE ADVERTISER'S SEMI-WEEKLY

## Men-A-fraid-of-Their-Shadow

THE harbor commission might well be called the "Men-A-fraid-of-Their-Shadow Club."

With a menace to the very existence of the commerce of this port for months to come, they shilly-shally back and forth in a "now-you-see-it-and-now-you-don't" fashion that is humiliating.

We well may say: "What manner of men have we for official representatives?"

The commissioners know, as every one knows, that the United States is on the very verge of possible hostilities with Germany—they may come at any hour.

They know, as every one knows, that the loyal German citizens on board the eight refugee German ships in Honolulu harbor, will do anything their government orders them to do.

This fact has been demonstrated within the month, when these same men on these same ships, smashed and wrecked their machinery, burned their boilers beyond repair and set fire to the Geier, then tied up to the wharf, making no effort to put out the fire and preventing the local authorities from doing so. And they admitted they were doing all this "under orders." That this statement was true is demonstrated by the fact that every German ship in every American port was simultaneously treated in the same manner, in anticipation of probable hostilities.

The commission knows, and every one knows who reads the papers, that one German steamer was deliberately sunk by her crew, in an American port, partially blocking the harbor, as a part of this same campaign of destruction, directed against a possible enemy.

What good does it do that the captain and crew of this steamer have been indicted for the act? The steamer is at the bottom and the harbor is damaged. Jailing the crew will not remedy this.

The commission ordered two of the steamers out of the harbor on Saturday last; but before the harbor master could carry out the order it was rescinded. Since then the commission has been in more or less continuous secret session, apparently trying to find out "how not to do it"—with entire success! For yesterday afternoon, after four days of strenuous travail, they gave birth to the decision that the ships could stay in the harbor, moored to the principal wharf in the harbor, upon the AGENTS giving a BOND!

Of what good will a bond be, if the ships are sunk, blocking our harbor?

The amount of the bond would be a cheap price for Germany to pay to block this port for four months, in case of war!

We do not want German money. We want the assurance that the Germans will not do in Honolulu what they have done in Charleston.

Does the commission believe that the existence of a bond will delay the crews of these steamers for one minute, if they receive orders from their government to blow the ships up and sink them where they will do the most damage?

If the commissioners have any such belief, they entirely misjudge German loyalty and courage.

The Advertiser is not condemning the Germans on these ships. It is stating that they are so loyal that they will obey orders regardless of consequences.

We wish we were equally sure of the loyalty to the United States of some who call themselves "Americans."

Even though the face of the bond were collectible, what is a mere money payment as an offset to lives that may be destroyed and the closing of this port for months.

But what is a bond?

It has been well described as "formal permission to bring a law suit"—and that is what it is—nothing more.

No matter what happens, there will be no payment on the bond, under the most favorable conditions, until a long and bitter law suit has dragged its weary way, for years, through the courts, with a good chance of collecting nothing.

A suit on a bond is a technical proceeding, and every possible technical obstacle would be thrown in the way of collecting this bond.

The long and the short of it is that there is no safety for this port and its commerce, as long as these steamers are in the harbor—and this applies equally to all eight of the German steamers, and not to the two only!

It is idle for the commission to claim that they have no jurisdiction over the other six steamers, because they happen to be tied up at a railroad wharf.

The commission does not control private wharves, but it does control every portion of the harbor of Honolulu, and it is directly responsible for the protection thereof.

The action and inaction of the commissioners is clearly in dereliction of their duty!

Zimmerman states his belief that the German plot to secure an invasion of the United States by the cut-throats of Mexico "as soon as war between Germany and the United States is declared" was a natural and justifiable precaution. The "natural and justifiable" stuff ought to be referred to the attorney general by the harbor board. It might help in deciding the question of the right of the people of this city to get rid of the German steamers from the harbor. What strikes a German as natural and justifiable these days may not strike us as agreeable.

## A Saving Decision

THROUGH the decision of the Supreme Court yesterday in the matter of the "five percent clause" of the Underwood-Simmons Tariff Act, the attempt of congress to assist the American merchant marine indirectly is knocked out, while the United States treasury gains some millions of dollars now and from fifteen to twenty millions annually so long as the present tariff prevails. There was a possibility of a decision which would have effected a vertical cut in the tariff of five percent, had the contentions of some of the parties to the suit been sustained.

The so-called "five percent" cases came before the Supreme Court through a clause in the tariff law which authorized reductions of five percent on duties on all merchandise imported in American ships. All nations with which the United States has the so-called "favored nation" clause in commercial treaties protested against the provision as a discrimination and a violation of treaty provisions. Nations which did not have such treaties also made protests, and the operation of the law was held up while the cases were taken through the lower courts and up to the Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, the regular duties were collected, until the federal treasury amassed between \$25,000,000 and \$30,000,000 which has been held ready to return to importers in case the court decided the clause was invalid.

The twenty-two nations with which the United States has "commerce and navigation" treaties guaranteeing reciprocal exemption from discriminating duties are: Argentine, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Bolivia, China, Colombia, Korea, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Honduras, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Spain and Sweden.

The most important countries without such treaties are: Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Mexico, Nicaragua, Portugal, Rumania, Russia, Uruguay, Venezuela and Switzerland.

The discount clause, designed to stimulate the American merchant marine, was a compromise between the senate and house when the present Underwood-Simmons Act was adopted October 3, 1913. It provides:

That a discount of five per centum on all duties imposed by this act shall be allowed on such goods, wares and merchandise as shall be imported in vessels admitted to registration under the laws of the United States, provided, that nothing in this subsection shall be construed as to abrogate or in any manner impair or affect the provisions of any treaty concluded between the United States and any foreign nation.

The proviso was added upon insistence of the senate that a straight out preference and discrimination to American shipments would abrogate the existing treaties of the twenty-two "treaty nations."

President Wilson did not personally intervene in the dispute between the house and senate, but after enactment of the law the attorney general decided it was void and inoperative as discriminatory and violative of the treaties. Upon this ruling the treasury department has refused all discount claims, collecting full tariff rates.

Upon appeal of many New York importers, further division of opinion as to operation of the clause arose. The board of customs appraisers held it operative only to imports in American ships. The importers appealed to the customs court, which held that the discount should be given not only upon such imports but also upon those in vessels of the "treaty nations." The senate proviso was held by this court to extend the discount to these foreign nations.

From this ruling the department of justice appealed to the Supreme Court, where fourteen cases were twice argued, in February, 1916, and again in February, 1917. The government sought, first, to have the clause declared wholly void, or inoperative and suspend during the terms of the treaties, both as to imports in American and foreign vessels, or at least have the discount granted only to American shipping. It was contended that the extension of the discount to foreign vessels would nullify the designed effect to aid American shipping. The government also contended that the discount aided importers more than vessel owners and operated merely to decrease federal revenues without substantially aiding the United States merchant marine.

The importers sought to have the discount applied both to American and foreign vessels, contending that an application to American vessels alone would conflict with the foreign treaties and possibly invoke counter discriminations and international commercial dissension.

It is the height of absurdity to refer to the re-appealment question before the legislature as "a bugaboo." It is a plain question of right and wrong, a simple matter of obedience to law on the part of lawmakers, a straight case of fairness. Senator Pacheco, in undertaking to present a bill to carry out the plain terms of the Organic Act, deserves the commendation of every man in the Territory with a respect for the statutes and with a desire to play the game according to the rules.

The Austrian note announcing the intention of the Dual Monarchy to stick with Germany reminds Americans that the Ancona case has not yet been settled. And, thinking of the Lusitania case, we are reminded again that the Lusitania case is also among the things that have yet to be concluded.

Isn't it about time for the Hawaiian legislature to go on record in the matter of the recent Washington filibuster? Or are we pulling pacifists?

## BREVITIES

(From Wednesday Advertiser.)  
The city and county auditor reported to the board of supervisors last night that the amount of unclaimed wages of laborers totalled \$177.93.

The decree in the case of Dawn Moore versus the Great Northern Steamship Company was signed yesterday morning and ordered filed and entered.

Richard Cornyn, better known as Dick Sullivan, was an arrival by the steamer Lurline yesterday. He intends to establish an automobile agency here.

In the federal court yesterday morning the suit in admiralty of Clinton J. Hutchins versus the Great Northern Steamship Company, was continued for argument until the return of the deposition of C. W. Wiley.

The supreme court handed down an opinion yesterday sustaining the tax appeal court in the matter of the taxes of the Waiohine Agricultural & Grazing Company, Ltd. The tax appeal court sustained the assessment of the leasehold at the value of \$54,879 and the company appealed to the supreme court.

The admiralty case of K. P. Anderson versus the bark George Curtis was being argued yesterday morning, there being a hearing on the motion for the issuance of execution against libellee, George Davis appeared for libellant and C. S. Franklin for the libellee. The motion was denied and libellee was given ten days in which to file bond for appeal in the sum of \$500.

E. A. Mott-Smith and Judge Alexander Lindsay Jr., have formed a law partnership, which has been in force since the first of the month. Mr. Mott-Smith was Wade Warren Thayer's predecessor as Secretary of Hawaii. Judge Lindsay at one time was district magistrate of Honolulu, later a circuit judge and more recently deputy attorney general and still later attorney general of the Territory.

As the result of the assistance rendered by the promotion committee to E. M. Newman, a lecturer, when he visited Hawaii some time ago to gather information and take moving pictures, the East is well pleased with the illustrated lecture which is being given by Newman at the lecture hall on Hawaii has been given in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and St. Louis to packed houses.

A number of applications for passports have recently been filed with the clerk of the federal court, among them being those of Mrs. Albert Waterhouse, Mrs. Fred T. P. Waterhouse and Fred T. P. Waterhouse, who are leaving by the steamer Tenyo Maru, April 15, for the Malay Peninsula. Other applicants are Miss Lavinia Lally, who goes to the Orient; Chas. Frank Hickerson Jr. and wife, who are going to the Colonies and China; and Kitt Dalton, who leaves for the Fijian Islands by the steamer Niagara, April 25, to engage in missionary work.

(From Thursday Advertiser.)  
The supervisors voted last night to withhold \$425 of the amount due to the Eastern firm that supplied Honolulu's automobile and motorcycle numbers. The firm did not manufacture the number plates according to specifications.

An announcement was made that a pupils' recital of the Back Pianofort School will be given under the directorship of Edith Kawasaki of this city, a graduate from the normal department of the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. The recital is to be given in the Phoenix Hall, March 23.

Three Japanese dramas will be played by members of the editorial staffs of the local Japanese newspapers next Saturday evening at seven-thirty o'clock, in the Asahi theater. The dramatic entertainments are to be given under the auspices of the Japanese literary association formed recently by the Japanese newspaper men.

According to statements by the department aviation officer, Capt. John Curry, S. C. U. S. A., Fort Kamehameha may not be selected as the site for the aviation field which the army will shortly establish. Captain Curry stated that the site has not yet been decided upon, and it is believed that conditions at the big gun post on the lochs are not entirely satisfactory.

Four inquests in three days is the record made this week by Deputy Sheriff Julius Aseh, acting as coroner in the investigation of four deaths by violence. A jury yesterday went over the death of the Japanese woman drowned at Waikiki Monday. A similar verdict of accidental cause. A similar verdict was given in the case on Tuesday of the Japanese boy killed while joy-riding on Nuuanu Street. Today the coroner will inquire into the death of the Japanese whose body was found on Round Top. The death of a Chinese laborer investigated this week is the fourth case.

## INTERISLAND HEADS OFF ON MATSONIA

J. A. Kennedy and J. M. Dowsett, the former president and the latter first vice-president of the Inter-Island Steam Navigation Company, left yesterday morning for San Francisco on the Matsonia liner Matsonia. It was stated at the offices of the company that they were "just off for a trip."

The Matsonia had a capacity list of passengers outward bound, taking 220 in her cabins and seventy-six in her steerage. She was loaded to capacity with sugar and island products. She sailed promptly at ten o'clock, being followed out by the interisland steamer Mauna Kea.

Among local business men leaving on the vessel for the Coast was F. J. Lowrey, of Lowers & Cooke, Ltd.

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## PERSONALS

(From Wednesday Advertiser.)  
Mrs. W. M. Butler of Wailua returned home yesterday afternoon, after two weeks in a hospital, where she underwent an operation.

Judge Clem K. Quinn of the Hilo circuit court is a visitor in the city and will return to his Big Island home in the Mauna Kea next Saturday.

Representative Charles N. Marques was a returning passenger in the Mauna Kea yesterday from Lahaina, Maui, where he spent a couple of days on business.

(From Thursday Advertiser.)  
A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. John E. Goons, of 1066 Kamehameha Avenue, Awaolu, last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy John Levey, of 541 Hotel Street, welcomed yesterday the arrival of a daughter at their home.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Severance, of No. 3 Cottage Grove, South King, near Pili-ko-i Street, became the parents of a son yesterday. Mrs. Severance is a well-known member of the College Club and a graduate of Smith College, Massachusetts, class of 1909.

## SUPERVISOR RAPS RICH CORPORATIONS

Arnold Wants Work Stopped On Bishop Street Until Property Owners Will Help

Preliminary action on a project to extend Bishop Street through to the waterfront was taken last night by the board of supervisors on motion of Supervisor Arnold. The city engineer was instructed to prepare the necessary data on ownership of property makai on Bishop from King Street.

Arnold's motion was made after a report had been presented showing that ninety per cent of the property owners in the proposed improvement district on Bishop Street had protested against improvement work mainly on the ground that such work should not be done until the extension was made and building work along the street had become permanent.

"It is strange that the biggest firms and wealthiest corporations in the islands can't see their way clear to have this improvement work done," said Arnold, "until they can get big brownstone office buildings constructed."

"At present, extension of Bishop Street to the waterfront is most desirable, but it is practically impossible."

"But the board should go on record against spending a single dollar more on maintenance work on Bishop Street."

After the board had adopted a motion dropping the proposed Bishop Street improvement work, Arnold moved that the necessary steps be taken looking toward extension of the street.

"We can have the street extended to the waterfront and then that objection will be removed against improvement of the rest of the street. The sooner we get started on the extension work the better. The legislature is now in session, and if we have to go to that body to have this work done this is the opportunity."

It was pointed out at the meeting that the Davies warehouse land, through which the extension would go, had recently been sold to the Hawaiian Electric Company, and that before plans for the land were made by the purchasers was the best time to take up the proposition with them of the extension.

## OVER QUARTER MILLION IN REALTY TRANSFERS

## BUILDING MODERN HOUSE

The Trent Trust Company is building a modern house on Birch Street, near King, at a cost of \$2000. The house, when completed, will be for sale. Among other deals of the company this week is the sale of Miss Margaret P. Riley's house on Kuukini Street to H. R. Warren for \$2000.

Another sale was the lot at the corner of King and McCully Street, owned by Charles R. Fraser, which was purchased by Jonah Kamahe for \$1500.

## COTTAGE PLANS COMPLETE

The architects, Harper & Furer, have recently completed plans for three cottages and a store building to be erected at the corner of Punchbowl and Vineyard Streets, opposite Queen's Hospital. The owner is John Duggan and work on the buildings will commence this week. The outlay will be in the neighborhood of \$7000.

## WORK NEARLY DONE

The new marquis hearing completion over the entrance of the Hawaiian Trust Company's offices was designed by Ripley & Davis. It is constructed of bronze somewhat after Gothic design, and when completed will add to the appearance of the building as well as being serviceable in many ways.

## PACIFIC MAIL IS MORE PROSPEROUS

Annual Report Shows Its Earnings Increasing With Better Times In Sight

A profit nearly three times greater than that of 1915 for the Panama line of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and a net income of \$825,000 are the features of the annual report of George J. Baldwin, president of the company, recently received in detail in San Francisco.

Despite the increase in the earnings of the Panama line for 1915 the net income represents a decrease from the earnings of 1915 when the figure reached \$1,380,000. This decrease is due to the temporary abandonment of the transpacific service and the sale of several steamers to the International Mercantile Marine Company. This service, since that time, has been reopened with the acquisition of the Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador, now plying between San Francisco and the Orient.

In his letter to the stockholders President Baldwin refers to the investment of \$200,000 made by the company for acquiring joint interest with the American International Corporation, the International Mercantile Marine Company and W. R. Grace & Co. in the purchase of the New York Shipbuilding Company's plant at Camden, New Jersey.

"By taking this interest in the shipbuilding plant," says Mr. Baldwin, "your company obtained the right to have constructed for its use a certain tonnage per annum of ships for its account under very favorable terms. Aside from this feature, which is of paramount importance at the present it is expected that the investment will prove to be a profitable one."

Directors of the Pacific Mail have appropriated the sum of \$453,339 from income to be applied to extraordinary depreciation of steamers, so that in the event of a sudden decline in the value of bottoms the company will under all conditions rest upon a safe and conservative basis.

## TRADING COMPANY FORMED IN GOTHAM

Five Million Dollar Commercial Concern To Develop Pacific Trade Is Launched

A big forward stride in the development of the trade of San Francisco and the Pacific Coast with the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, Siberia and other overseas countries was announced recently in New York, when the fact of the organization of the Pacific Development Corporation was made public.

This commercial enterprise is capitalized at \$5,000,000, of which \$1,000,000 of working capital has been subscribed in cash at par.

The corporation represents a consolidation of the Pacific Commercial Company, the largest American enterprise in the Philippine Islands, and Anderson, Meyer & Company, Ltd., the principal American commercial house in China.

Numbered among the board of directors is Herbert Reinhardt, president of the Anglo-London National Bank, and associated with him are such well known names in the world of finance as Galen L. Stone of Hayden, Stone & Company, Guy W. Currier of Currier, Young & Pillsbury, Boston; Francis R. Hart, vice president of the Old Colony Trust Company, Boston; M. F. Loewenstein, president of the Pacific Commercial Company; V. Meyer of Anderson, Meyer & Company; Andrew W. Preston, president of the United Fruit Company; Chester P. Siems of Siems & Carey; Wallace D. Simmons, president of the Simmons Hardware Company, St. Louis; Willard Strait, Royall Victor, Herbert H. White and Edward B. Bruce.

The stock of the new corporation, not subscribed for working capital, has been issued in exchange for the securities of the Pacific Commercial Company and Anderson, Meyer & Company, Ltd., both of which have been absorbed.

At a recent meeting of the board, Edward B. Bruce was elected president of the new company, and Galen L. Stone was elected chairman of the board.

## WORK ON RESIDENCE NEARING COMPLETION

Work on the new \$15,000 residence being built by C. G. Bockus on his property in Nuuanu Valley, between the park and Dowsett tracts, is about half completed. The carpenters started to put the roof on yesterday.

The Bockus residence is being built on a tract of land consisting of three acres. The house commands a beautiful view of the valley and the sea.

Peter Higgins, vice-president of the Peerless Preserve and Paint Company, is also building a home in the Nuuanu district, located on Laimi Road.

## TROUBLE AVERTED.

That little cold and sore throat of yours must be checked at once or it may develop into something worse. Take a few doses of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and your troubles will soon vanish. For sale by all dealers, Benson Smith & Co., agents for Hawaii.

## EDINBOROUGH OT SOLD TO TOURIST BY FEED COMPANY

More Than \$200,000 Paid For Property By Wealthy Wyoming Cattleman

Ten minutes before the Matsonia sailed yesterday morning, what is reported to be the biggest real estate sale ever made in Honolulu to a tourist, was closed when Fred Macfarlane, president of the Union Feed Company, sold the Edinborough property on Bishop Street, comprising approximately 50,000 square feet, to Ransel Schuyler Van Tassel, prominent cattleman of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for a purchase price said to be in the neighborhood of \$210,000, the payment being made by Van Tassel in cash. The deal was transacted through the Waterhouse Trust Company.

Mr. Van Tassel and wife sailed on the Matsonia yesterday. They have been visiting in Hawaii for several weeks, renewing old acquaintances. This was their first visit to the Territory.

The Edinborough property was formerly owned by the Judge Widemann Estate and was bought by the Union Feed Company. It is located directly behind the Haffelfeld & Co. building and makai of the Spreckels' block, which was at one time before congress as the proposed site of the new federal building when the Mahukia site was abandoned by the secretary of the treasury who later decided on the Irwin site for the building.

Van Tassel is well and widely known in Wyoming and the Western United States. In Cheyenne he is called the "grand old man of Wyoming." He owns several large ranches there and many thousands head of cattle and sheep.

Tuesday afternoon Van Tassel was introduced to Fred Macfarlane of the Union Feed Company. Later in the day he happened to pass the Edinborough property and passed the remark to friends that it was a fine piece of real estate. When he was informed that it was for sale he decided to make an offer for it. He stated that he had faith in the future development of Honolulu, especially in business property. Van Tassel looked up the owner of the Edinborough land, finding it was the Union Feed Company. He again met Macfarlane and made him an offer of, it is stated, \$210,000 cash for the property. Macfarlane accepted the offer and ten minutes before the boat sailed yesterday the deal was closed.

Before leaving Honolulu on the Matsonia Van Tassel stated that he had no definite plans in regards to developing the Edinborough property. He said he was perfectly satisfied to hold it and possibly improve it for rental purposes next fall.

It is Van Tassel's intention to spend the summers in Wyoming and the winters in Hawaii. He will return to Honolulu next fall when he expects to purchase a home near Waikiki Beach if he can find one that will suit him.

Among those whom Mr. and Mrs. Van Tassel visited while here are Senator Robert W. Shingle and family, former postmaster, J. W. Pratt, at Hilo and Mrs. Charles A. Bon, of Honolulu.

## RUSHING WORK ON WAIKIKI HOSTELRY

Diamond Head Wing of Moana Will Be Completed in Four Months

H. L. Kerr, architect for the Territorial Hotel Company, stated yesterday that it is expected that the Diamond Head wing of the additions to the Moana Hotel will be ready for guests inside of four months. The Diamond Head wing is now ready for the plastering which will be started immediately by Bowler & Taggart. This work will take about two and a half months to finish and the remainder of the four months will be taken up in furnishing the new addition.

Concrete work on the Ewa wing will be commenced in about ten days, and will take about six months to complete. Kerr said the entire building will be ready for occupancy in time for the next tourist season.

The new wing will accommodate three hundred additional guests and every room will have a bath. When the Moana is completed it will be the next largest hotel in Honolulu to the Alexander Hotel.

The new annex being built to the Alexander Annex Hotel on Hotel Street will be finished in three months. The addition will give the Young an extra fifty six rooms, each with a bath. Work on the second story, which is reinforced concrete, is now going on and it is expected that the building will be closed in by three weeks time.

The ground floor of the annex will be used as a showroom. This room will be 70x130 feet clear space, there being no pillars.

## TO GROW ROSES

In order to make it possible to raise American beauty roses in Honolulu and other flowers, Mrs. Ethel M. Taylor, of Nuuanu Valley, is erecting a \$1500 hutting plant to supply artificial heat for her greenhouses. The plant is being installed by Lord & Barnham of New York. Mrs. Taylor has four greenhouses and two acres of land under intensive cultivation for the raising of flowers.